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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/551,261	09/28/2005	Efraim Haimoff	27028U	3363

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NATH & ASSOCIATES
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

EXAMINER

ABRAHAM, TANIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3636

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/551,261

Applicant(s)

HAIMOFF, EFRAIM

Examiner

Tania Abraham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Continuation Sheet.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :1/13/06, 7/17/06, 6/26/07, 12/12/07.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of invention Group A in the reply filed on October 12, 2007 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the support apparatus claimed is a common technical feature, wherein claims 1-37 have unity of invention a priori. This is found persuasive.

The requirement has been withdrawn and an examination of all claims on the merits follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-13, 15-27, and 29-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stumpf et al (US 6059368). Stumpf et al shows structure as claimed (in fig. 30-56) including at least one support portion which comprises a receiving frame 33 and a support member 32. The support member comprises a webbing 210 fitted at its edges with frame-engaging profiles formed with first engaging members 362 for secure

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engagement with corresponding second engaging members 364 of the receiving frame; wherein the first engaging members 362 are integrally molded with said webbing (fig. 32 & 33). Specifically regarding claims 6, 9, 10 and 38, the webbing 210 is made of mesh fabric woven of polymeric yarns coated with thermoplastic material (fig. 36, col. 16-17) resulting in a roughened and porous texture, at least at zones attached to the frame-engaging profiles. Specifically regarding claims 18, 19 and 23, Stumpf et al also show the frame-engaging profiles as snap-and-hook connections in figures 49-56; wherein (as shown in fig. 52) the planes of the webbing and frame-engaging profiles are substantially parallel, and (as shown in fig. 54-56) the planes intersect one another at an acute angle. As to claims 24-27 and 29-35, Stumpf et al also disclose the method for manufacturing as claimed in figures 40-48 (col. 19-20).

4. Claims 1-4, 7-22, 24, 26-33, 36 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coffield (US 6540950). Coffield shows structure as claimed including at least one support portion which comprises a receiving frame 26 and a support member; wherein the support member comprises a webbing 16 fitted at its edges with frame-engaging profiles formed with first engaging members 28 for secure engagement with corresponding second engaging members 48 of the receiving frame; wherein the first engaging members 28 are integrally molded with said webbing.

Regarding claim 14, Coffield discloses welding webbing 16 and frame-engaging profile 28 (col. 7: 18-20), which fully encompasses the heat weld as claimed. As to claims 24 and 26-33, Coffield also discloses the method for manufacturing as claimed (col. 6-7).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tania Abraham whose telephone number is 571-272-2635. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Dunn can be reached on 571-272-6670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Tania Abraham
January 7, 2008


DAVID DUNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER